



## Club Meeting

Bremerton  
Meets at Olympic  
College, Building 10  
1600 Chester Ave.  
Bremerton, WA 98337  
Time: Monday at 11:45  
AM

## Speakers

October 28, 2024

[Susan Young](#)

Alliance for Equitable  
Healthcare

November 04, 2024

[Tom Zwolfer](#)

USS Bremerton

November 11, 2024

[VETERANS DAY \(no  
meeting\)](#)

November 18, 2024

[Lisa Hope](#)

Kitsap History Museum

## Events

No Events found

## Birthdays

ELIZABETH A. Shea

October 24th

Peter Braun

November 14th

## Years of Service

Steven M. Rice

06-01-1990

35 Years

Karen McKay Bevers

06-01-2012

13 Years

Caroline Rivers

06-04-2015

10 Years

Daryl Wayne Matheny

06-22-2017

8 Years

Laura McKerrow

05-31-2020

5 Years



*From the meeting of 10/21/24*

**BY STEVE LANDAU**

REFLECTION

**Jean Mitchell** had a brief message for our club: Just vote, vote, vote.

VISITORS & GUESTS

**Andy Graham**, President, East Bremerton Rotary Club

**Mary Lou Long**

**Summer Rosa**

**Iita Yli-KuhA**, inbound exchange student from Finland

BHS ASB students:

**Claudia Kibbe**, ASB President

**Timarria Bivins**, ASB Liaison with BHS Faculty

**Treyden Hesch**, ASB Public Relations Czar

(all the ASB students also attended RYLA)

MUSIC COMMITTEE

**Walt Draper**, back after several months recovering from surgery, said he had been to another Rotary club meeting, where someone knew about our club and said that Bremerton had an excellent "chorus." Which we do, of course. That chorus performed an original song penned by John Stockwell to the tune of "The House of the Rising Sun."

*The House of Bremerton Rotary*

There is a club in Bremerton, known as Rotary

Providing funds and scholar-ships in our community.

Karen, she's the Pres-ident, the target of our song.

I'll bet that she will hope and pray this doesn't go too long.

She joined the club in twenty-one, as Covid neared the end.

Elections with Pentz were getting tense 'til Karen said I'm in!

She stepped right up to follow Dad, when Doug showed her the way.

Each week Kar-en's at the front every Monday.

So you my dear were the target here, only because we care.

We appreciate you leading us, we did this on a dare!

SERGEANT & HAPPY BUCKS

**Chuck Capps** was the sergeant and he asked for "happy bucks."

Die-hard Mariners fan **Steve Landau** was bedecked in his L.A. Dodgers regalia and he explained that he grew up in L.A., where he was a die-hard Dodgers fan in his youth and still roots for Dem Bums when they're in the postseason. Barring a Dodgers-Mariners World Series (odds .00001%) he'll never have to choose between his two favorite teams.

**Carrie Rivers** said her youngest son, **William**, got to take his classroom's stuffed dog, Clifford, home with him over the weekend, which was fine until their own dog defiled Clifford. Also, her eldest, **Sean**, went to his first Homecoming Dance and actually danced!



*lita Yli-Kuha attended her first American Homecoming Dance. She is standing at left in middle photo, where she and friends gathered in the rain for photos. At right is a picture of the corsage designed for lita by **Carrie Rivers**, who works in a flower shop.*

**Tom Long** attended his wife **Mary Lou Long's** 60th high school reunion in San Francisco. He also noted that our exchange student, **lita Yli-Kuha**, attended Homecoming and before the event went to Rotary Evergreen Park for pictures, where it was raining but she persevered.

**Walt Draper** was happy to be in our midst again after rupturing his left quadriceps tendon in a fall. They had to reattach the tendon to the top of his knee and Walt was not allowed to bend his knee for 60 days. He recuperated in Greenville, South Carolina, where his wife **Linda** has a house.

**Jim Cline**, on behalf of the Downtown Bremerton Association, thanked us for our donation to their Halloween event. On behalf of the Charleston Business Association, he thanked us for our donation to the first-ever Calloween event Saturday, Oct. 26.

**Doug Berger** enjoyed a trip to Nashville to visit Civil War sites with his wife and **Kyle Kincaid** and his wife **Jewel**. This was Doug's fourth Civil War battlefield tour. He also went to Chicago to visit his 15-year-old granddaughter, who is dancing with the Chicago Ballet!

**Gerry Egan** was happy for the big Seahawks win Sunday against Atlanta. He said they actually looked pretty good for the first time in awhile.

**Larry Eyer** said his wife **Mary** sent him to Abraham's House Charity on Callow Avenue Saturday to pick up a bed for Kitsap Homes of Compassion. There were about 100 people there seeking furniture donations. On Sunday, a tree fell over on a power line at his neighbor's house and the whole neighborhood showed up to carefully cut the branches down with chainsaws.

**Dave Gitth** enjoyed riding the Light Rail with his daughter from its southernmost terminal at Angle Lake to its northernmost (and recently opened) terminal in Lynnwood. It took an hour and a half either way and only cost him \$2!

**Gordon Cromwell** saw a photo of his son, a paramedic in Carlsbad, California, cutting down trees with a chainsaw. His son said he never thought he'd get paid for doing this.

**James LeRoy** enjoyed attending his first AVID meeting with mentors and students. James said his group was composed of freshmen and they were pretty tight lipped for the most part, except one girl who opened up about the loss of her mom earlier this year. James was glad she felt safe talking about it in this setting.

**President Karen Sawyer-Meehan** also attended AVID, where her group of seniors were excited to see their mentors and wanted to tell them about their college applications.

**Karen McKay-Bevers** said her kids had become friends with **Andrea Spencer's** daughter **PJ**. She is an avid mountain biker, but when she reached the high school, Karen's daughter **Evvie** convinced PJ to join the Kingston High School swim team - and she loves it! On Friday, Bremerton hosted Kingston in a swim meet and Karen got to cheer for both girls.

Seeing **Gordon Cromwell** in a sling following rotator cup surgery, guest **Andy Graham** said he could finally beat Gordon in a left-handed wrestling match.

**Sergeant Chuck** then proceeded to honor all the active duty, retired or reserve military members present and everyone at their table had to pay a fine for the privilege of sitting with them. Chuck does this every time his is sergeant. Then he fined anyone who has not attended a Wild Game Committee meeting, those who aren't AVID mentors, those who haven't yet mailed or dropped off their ballots, and those planning a trip out of state to avoid bad weather.

BHS ASB STUDENTS



*Timarria Bivins, Treyden Hesch and Claudia Kibbe*

Three ASB officers from Bremerton High were on hand to give us an update on BHS activities for the beginning of the school year. All had attended RYLA.

**Claudia Kibbe**, ASB President, said they had some difficulties the first week of school at a pep assembly, but the Homecoming Assembly last Friday was a great success. The dance part had to be switched from the commons area to the gym, which turned out fine.

**Treyden Hesch**, the ASB Public Relations “Czar,” said ASB class is now held during an academic period during the school day, rather than after school. He is working with students from the filmmaking class to get the word out about ASB events.

**Timarria Bivins**, the ASB student representative to the high school faculty, said prep work for the Homecoming Assembly was stressful, but it was worth it.

#### PROGRAM



**Doug Berger**, past president of our club, gave a talk about the Rotary International Foundation and the annual campaign to raise funds for it. He said this is distinguished from our Bremerton Rotary Foundation, which has over \$1 million and funds our scholarships and other charitable projects. The Rotary International Foundation (RIF) funds Rotary efforts around the world to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty. He said the RIF has earned the highest rating for 15 years from Charity Navigator, which rates charities by the amount of money that goes to actual programs rather than administrative costs. The RIF has an 88% rating.

Doug explained that all money we give to the RIF stays invested for three years and then can be used for Global Grants or District Designated Funds. We have drawn on those district funds for some of our international projects in Mexico, which involved improvements to the water system in Mulege and improved health care in rural areas of Oaxaca state.

Each year, we are encouraged to make at least a \$100 donation to RIF. Their motto is "Every Rotarian, Every Year." In our club members who contribute \$1,000 over a period of time are named Paul Harris Fellows. Actually, it's only \$800 because our club matches the first and last \$100 contributions. Currently we have 38 active members with at least one Paul Harris award. Many have multiple awards; **Jerry Reid** did a Paul Harris Fellowship for each of his six grandchildren!

Later in the year, Doug will be distributing a letter to all members, citing their current donations to Paul Harris and seeking a donation for the current Rotary year. It's possible to set up automatic giving online; **Karen McKay-Bevers** says it's pretty techie but she can lead someone through it.

#### DRAWING



**Carrie Rivers** had the winning ticket again, but did not draw the right card from the deck. The pot is now about \$500.

#### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Oct. 28: **Susan Young**, Alliance for Equitable Healthcare

Nov. 4: **Tom Zwolfer**, USS Bremerton

Nov. 11: VETERANS DAY (no meeting)

Nov. 18: **Lisa Hope**, Kitsap History Museum

#### DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISIT

District 5020 Governor Bill McGregor made his official annual visit Wednesday to several local Rotary clubs at the Whiskey Gulch restaurant in Port Orchard. We were represented by several Rotarians and family members.



Left: Carrie Rivers, William Rivers, Lily Meehan (Karen and Rob's daughter) and Sean Rivers. Right, Rob Meehan (Karen's husband) and daughter, Lily



Left: Tyler and Reama Schuldt and Mary Lou Long  
Right, President Karen and District Governor Bill McGregor working out our club's dinner tab

**Photos and proofreading by Tom Long**